

MLN Matters Number: MM4346

Related Change Request (CR) #: 4346

Related CR Release Date: February 10, 2006

Effective Date: January 1, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: R2100TN

Implementation Date: February 15, 2006

Creation of a Second Participation Enrollment Period for 2006

Note: This article was revised to contain web addresses that conform to the new CMS web site and to show they are now MLN Matters articles. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians who bill Medicare carriers for their services

Key Points

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is offering a second participation enrollment period for 2006 for physicians.
- This second enrollment period will run for 45 days. It will begin on February 15, 2006, and end on March 31, 2006. Your Medicare carrier will accept any participation enrollment changes for 2006 that are received or post-marked by March 31, 2006.
- Any revisions to the participation election during this new enrollment period will be **retroactive to January 1, 2006**.
- This second enrollment period will allow you to reconsider your decisions in light of the revised 0 percent update stemming from the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, and the related revision to the 2006 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS).
- If you choose to submit your participation election (or withdrawal request) during this second enrollment period, you must begin to bill claims in accordance with your decision once the election is submitted to your local carrier.
- If you do not wish to change your current participation, or non-participation status, you do not need to do anything.

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Additional Information

Enrollment Information

- To enroll, please use the **Medicare Participating Physician or Supplier Agreement** (Form CMS-460). A copy of this form is attached to Change Request (CR) 4051, Transmittal R730CP, Calendar Year (CY) 2006 Participation Enrollment and Medicare Participating Physicians and Suppliers Directory (MEDPARD) Procedures. This CR can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R730CP.pdf> on the CMS web site.
- If you are unable to access the Internet, please contact your Medicare carrier (toll-free telephone numbers are available through the link below) to request a hard-copy of the **Medicare Participating Physician or Supplier Agreement** (Form CMS-460).
- The Medicare fee-for-service contractor that serves your state is responsible for processing your **participation election (or withdrawal request)**. To locate the mailing address for the Medicare fee-for-service contractor for your state and provider type, please use the link to your carrier's toll free phone number located below.

Note: To avoid processing delays, do *not* mail your application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in Baltimore, Maryland.

- Your carrier will not automatically adjust any claims paid for services on or after January 1 based on any participation change made during this second period. However, the carrier will adjust such claims if you bring the claims to their attention.

CR4346 is the official instruction issued to your carrier regarding changes mentioned in this article. CR4346 may be found by going to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R2100TN.pdf> on the CMS website.

Please refer to your local carrier if you have questions about this issue. You can find your carrier's toll free phone number at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.pdf> on the CMS web site.

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